United Nations A/66/785–S/2012/273

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
30 April 2012

Original: English

General Assembly
Sixty-sixth session
Agenda item 43
Question of Cyprus

Security Council
Sixty-seventh year

Letter dated 26 April 2012 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter dated 26 April 2012, addressed to you by Mr. Hilmi Akil, Representative of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (see annex).

I would be grateful if the text of the present letter could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 43, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ertuğrul **Apakan**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

12-32558 (E) 020512

Please recycle

Annex to the letter dated 26 April 2012 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to refer to the letters dated 21 March 2012 and 11 April 2012, addressed to you by the Greek Cypriot representatives and circulated as documents of the General Assembly and of the Security Council (A/66/751-S/2012/173 and A/66/773-S/2012/217), which yet again contain well-known allegations of violations of "international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus", and to bring to your kind attention the following.

In response to such false allegations, I wish, once again, to reiterate that flights within the sovereign airspace of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus take place with the full knowledge and consent of the appropriate authorities of the State, over which the Greek Cypriot administration in South Cyprus has no jurisdiction or right of say whatsoever. It must be stated that claims of so-called violations of air traffic regulations are invalid, as the civil aviation authority of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus is the only competent authority to provide air traffic and aeronautical information services.

As noted in our previous letters, such assertions are based on the false and illicit claim that the sovereignty of the Greek Cypriot administration extends over the whole island, including the territory of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus. This pretentious contention by the Greek Cypriot side ignores the present realities on the island of Cyprus, namely, the existence of two independent States, each exercising sovereignty and jurisdiction within its respective territory.

Attempts by the Greek Cypriot side, through often-repeated false claims, to confer legitimacy upon an illegal administration will be futile since the Turkish Cypriot people will never give in to their unjust demands. What would indeed be conducive to a better atmosphere on the island would be for the Greek Cypriot side to stop arrogating for itself the rights and responsibilities it does not legally have, and to cease all hostilities towards the Turkish Cypriot people.

Furthermore, the Greek Cypriot administration should be reminded that its counterpart is, and has always been, the Turkish Cypriot side, not Turkey, and that its persistent denial of the Turkish Cypriot rights in the North of the island does not bode well for the prospects of a settlement of the Cyprus conflict in line with the established United Nations parameters, namely a partnership based on a bizonal, bicommunal federation with the political equality of the two constituent States.

The Greek Cypriot side's hostile stance against Turkey and the Turkish Cypriots and its use of every available outlet to repeat these fabricated accusations are in line with its policy of escalating tension between the two sides and undermining the process of negotiations on the island. The Greek Cypriot leadership's lack of enthusiasm for a settlement was further demonstrated most recently by their intense efforts to prevent the convening of the high-level international meeting which would have helped successfully conclude the process before 1 July 2012, as you also pointed out in your letter of 6 January 2012 to the two leaders.

It is unfortunate that the Turkish Cypriot side's vision of establishing a bizonal, bicommunal federation based on political equality, with two constituent States of equal status is not shared by the Greek Cypriot side, which prefers to gain time in the hope of dictating the terms of a likely settlement in the future. Their failure to reciprocate our goodwill and determination to find a just and equitable settlement to the Cyprus problem, and their unilateral, provocative actions in and around the island are not sources of encouragement for all those whose efforts are geared to the creation of conditions that would serve peace and stability in the region.

I would like to put on record once again that the Turkish Cypriot side is ready and doing its best to achieve a settlement in the form of a new partnership which will be in line with the established United Nations parameters and body of work.

I should be grateful if the text of the present letter could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 43, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Hilmi **Akil**
Representative
Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus